



## William R. Wiesner

September 12, 1950 - September 11, 2020

William R. Wiesner Jr, 69, better known as 'Bearcrazy Bill', died peacefully at home surrounded by family and friends following health complications.

He was born to William and Sharon (Getzloff) Wiesner. Bill graduated from Sturgeon Bay High School in 1969. His nickname in his high school years was 'Hammer'. On Dec. 30, 1969, he joined and proudly served in the United States Marine Corps as a field radio operator receiving the National Defense Service Medal. On March 3, 1971, Bill was honorably discharged due to a service-related injury.

On October 28, 1972 he married Sandra K. Ebel and celebrated almost 48 years of marriage with Sandy. The most important thing to Bill was sharing time with his family and friends. He had an outgoing, friendly personality and touched a lot of people's lives. Bill was a member of the Tanum Forest Evangelical Lutheran Church and so enjoyed the fellowship after mass with the church members.

Bill "Bear Crazy" Wiesner is one of the most revered bow hunters/designers in the United States. As an expert bow hunter, teacher, author and industry leader, Bill has been recognized by the industry and sought after to design and sell his bows.

Bill loved the outdoors and achieved many bowhunting accomplishments for over 30 years. Some of his accomplishments included being recognized by Field & Stream magazine in 2000, with the honor of receiving the bow design BEST of the BEST AWARD, one year after starting Renegade Archery; Accomplished outdoor writer with articles published in all bowhunting/outdoor magazines. Publications Bill had written for included, Field & Stream, Bear Hunting Magazine, Bowhunter Magazine, Bow & Arrow Magazine, Archery World, Whitetails Unlimited, Wisconsin Bowhunters, Wisconsin Outdoor News, Badger Sportsman & Traditional Bowhunter. Bill was an accomplished bow design engineer, revolutionizing sports archery. Companies he started, exclusively using his personal bow designs included: Renegade Archery, Orion Archery & Evotek. He authored 2 books: Traditional Archery; The Aggressive Approach and The Bear Hunting Obsession

of a Driven Man. He also produced 6 award winning videos: A Man Called Bearcrazy, Traditional Archery – The Aggressive Approach, Bruin Up a Storm, Bowhunting A Family Tradition, The Bear Hunting Obsession of the Wiesner Family & Full Boar. He was a noted national seminar speaker. Seminars included everything from The Right Bow for You, Archery Safety, Bow Selection, Bow Hunting to Bear Hunting. Bill enjoyed being a Hunter Education Instructor and was also a Bow Hunting and Safety Instructor at Ted Nugent's Kamp for Kids, countless 4H clubs and Youth Archery organizations. He was the first in a class of 8 bowhunters to be certified in Wisconsin under the International Bowhunter Education foundation. He was honored and privileged to have Ted Nugent, Blake Shelton and Brett Favre shoot his bows. Ted and Bill became life-long friends and shared many hunts together.

Bill is survived by his wife, Sandy, sons Brad (Melissa) and Bryan (Nicole), 3 grandchildren, Tia, Keagan, Ryder, his mother, Sharon, brothers Paul (Jeanne), Mike (Julie) and a sister Mary (Dave).

He was preceded in death by his father, William Wiesner Sr, paternal grandparents Roy and Edna Wiesner and maternal grandparents John and Donna Getzloff.

Bill will be sadly missed by his family and friends and will remain in our hearts forever. A Life Celebration will be held for Bearcrazy Bill at a later date.

# Comments

---



“ I’m so so sorry to hear of bills passing. I had such a great time at the caribou camp and at the trade shows with bill and you sandy! Look out for those black flies! lol I’m sending        For comfort to all of you! Hugs



**celeste pollack** - October 06, 2020 at 10:50 PM

---



“ Bill V. purchased a sympathy card for the family of William R. Wiesner.



**Bill V.** - October 03, 2020 at 10:15 AM

---



“ Bill was an original and an honest real-life bear hunter and outdoor writer. Unlike so many others in the field, Bill told the truth and did not have to embellish his accomplishments in the outdoors . . he was the REAL MCCOY!!!! RIP Bearcrazy and I am looking forward to hunting with you "on the other side"!!!

Bill Vaznis  
re

**Bill Vaznis** - October 03, 2020 at 10:07 AM

---



“ Wow, what a huge loss. There are few families closer to each other than the Wiesener family so I know what a terrible loss this is. I will certainly remember all the good times at the house, stump shooting with Bill, Sandy, and the boys and even a hunting trip. There was NO ONE better with children than Bill. It is a huge loss to his friends and his family. Diane, Kevin and I offer our sincerest condolences.

**Ken Mac Donald** - September 25, 2020 at 12:31 PM

---



“ Sorry for your loss, Brian , Nicole and family.I didn't personally know your Dad but from everything Nicole said when we worked together it sounded like he was a great guy!!  
Connie Hale

**connie hale** - September 22, 2020 at 04:34 PM

---



“ Our condolences to Sandy, Brad, Brian and family. I have several pictures and many good memories of different hunts.  
Rest in peace Bill.

**mike maedke** - September 20, 2020 at 05:15 PM

---



“ I have wonderful memories growing up with Bill on the west side and playing sports together through high school. Although I left Sturgeon Bay and I never was a hunter, I always knew Bill was a friend for life. He lived a remarkable life and I know he loved his family and friends and would give you the shirt off his back if you needed it. Rest in Peace my dear friend.  
Ron Drabowicz

**Ron Drabowicz** - September 19, 2020 at 11:30 AM

---



“ My sincere sympathy to all of Billy's family. You are all in my prayers. He will be missed. Truly a good guy.  
Mimi Paul

**Mimi Paul** - September 18, 2020 at 08:42 AM

---



“ Always enjoying crossing trails and spending time swapping hunting tales with Bearcrazy at archery trade shows and other events. He was one of the sport's good guys and will be missed. RIP, Bill! Hope to see you again somewhere further down the trail.

M. R. James  
Founder, BOWHUNTER Magazine

M. R. James - September 16, 2020 at 06:13 PM

---



“ Patt ,Jason, Paula & Damien & Ray purchased the America the Beautiful for the family of William R. Wiesner.



Patt ,Jason, Paula & Damien & Ray - September 16, 2020 at 01:01 PM